

Around the Block

VOLUME 32, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2015

2014-2015 Officers

President:

Karen Skinner

President-Elect:

Pam Doffek

Membership Vice President:

Peggy Clark

Secretary:

Judy Stricklin

Treasurer:

Heather Strickland

Committee & Activity Chairpersons

Audio/Visual: Betty Rinkel

Audit: Stephanie Guttman

Block Raffle: Gail Chase

Challenge: Lucy Patrick

City Hall Quilt Show: **Open**

Door Prizes: Miriam Baldwin & Kris Klob

Helping Hands: Stephanie Guttman

Library: Lascella Ingram

Museum Quilt Show: Hattie Pennie

Museum Quilt Show Co-Chairs:

Open

Newsletter: Selena Foo

Opportunity Quilt 2015: Betty Rinkel

Opportunity Quilt 2016: Geni Rains

Philanthropic: Michelle Hackmeyer

Programs: Roberta Granville

Show 'n' Tell: Linda Davis

Silent Auction: Nancy O'Rourke

Sit 'n' Stitch Coordinator: Marsha Walper

Sunshine: Jeanne Billings

Travel/Trip Coordinator: Joy Vo

Website Coordinator: Jessica Duke

Welcoming: Susan Skornia

Workshops: Jeanne Brenner

President's Message

It has been Spring, and the pollen has even gotten onto my quilts, which makes me think of that yucky subject called cleaning.....including cleaning my sewing machine.

We need to do that often, more so if we are quilting through cotton batting, and not just piecing. I helped someone once who'd never been instructed to clean her machine, and the feed dogs were so clogged with lint between the ridged rows that the fabric was barely getting pushed through – no wonder she was frustrated.

If you don't have a sewing machine brush, a child's paint set type of brush works fine helping get into the nooks and crannies. Using a computer/sewing machine neck-down attachment for your vacuum cleaner hose will help a great deal, but if you don't have one of those, I've seen someone duct-tape a straw to the crevice tool of the vacuum and do an excellent job of cleaning. Always use suction (or a brush), never blow into the machine.

Cleaning you iron after using fusible web is very important, and there are numerous products that are supposed to do that well. Just don't do what I did, and use so much paste cleaner on the cleaning cloth that it soaks through into the iron board surface, and leaves a residue that can harm your fabrics.

On to other news...

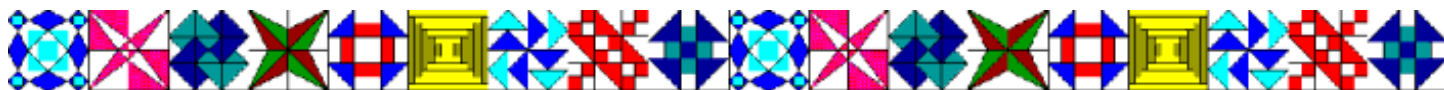
I have been notified by the Thomasville Road Baptist Church that they can only honor their commitment to letting us use their Fellowship Hall for this year only. We will need to search for another Meeting location for 2016 and beyond. This requires a space that can hold up to 110 to 120 people. We had 108 registered attendees at the January Meeting. We will revisit information collected for the last location search, and have another lead to track down, but once again, all help is appreciated.

For those of you that wanted to read the Budget Analysis but could not hear my description of where to find it on the Guild website, this is the direct link to the webpage with the Analysis and backup information.

<http://quilttallahassee.com/membership/guild-organization/budget-analysis/>

~ Karen Skinner

2015 QU President



Sit-n-Stitch Groups

A “Sit-n-Stitch” is a group of members who meet weekly, bi-weekly or sometimes once a month. Some groups meet in a member’s home on a rotating basis and work on their own individual project. Some groups meet at a specified location and work on a service project. We have several of both of these types of groups in our guild. If you are interested, please call Marsha Walper.

*** Sit-n-Stitch at full capacity, not accepting new members at this time**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Big Bend Hospice	McQuilters	Crazy Quilters	Sew Arty	Thimble Buddies *	Sew for Hope
1:00pm - 3:00pm Virginia Lewis	Ronald McDonald House 1:00pm - 3:00pm Carol Harrison	Monticello Library 1:00pm - 4:00pm Barbara Sheats	3rd Thursday 11:30am - 1:30pm Kathleen Turner	2nd Friday 9:30am - 1:30pm Wendy Stone	1st & 3rd Saturdays 9:30am - 1:00pm Cynthia Seyler
The Quilting Bees		Pin Pals *	Patchwork & Prayer	Frayed Edges *	2nd Saturday
Senior Center 1:00pm - 4:00pm		1st & 3rd Wed. 1:00pm - 3:00pm Linda Steans	1st, 3rd, & 4th Thursday 6:30pm - 8:30pm Janice Parker	9:30am - 12:00pm Selena Foo	9:00am - 4:00pm Connie Beane
Southwood Stitchers			Southern Comfort	Quilts ‘n Books	Havana Sit ‘n Stitch
Southwood Comm. Room 10:00am - 3:00pm Nancy O’Rourke			1st, 3rd, & 4th Thursday 7:00pm - 9:00pm Esther Weiner	4th Friday 10:00am - 12:00pm NE Library on Thomasville Rd. Joy Vo	4th Saturday 1:00pm - ? Martha Mitchell
			Appliqué Addicts		Midtown Sit ‘n Stitch
			3rd Thursday NE Library, Thomasville Rd 5:30 - 7:45 pm Mary C. Scott		Sunday Karen Skinner’s house 1:00pm—4:00pm Karen Skinner





Quilters Unlimited's Facebook Page



Non-Facebook members should be able to view posts on the Quilter's Unlimited Facebook page because it is an "open to public" viewable page.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Quilters-Unlimited-of-Tallahassee/109293555755186>

For those Guild members who are "on" Facebook, we encourage you to take a look at our page, and maybe even "Like" it.



Newsletter Info

The deadline for newsletter submissions for the next issue is:

April 25th

*Please submit materials to
Selena Foo via email at*

qutlhnews@gmail.com



Upcoming Programs ...

April 9th—"Grannie Would Be So Excited"

My how we've changed! Next month's program, brought to you by Susan Wallace, will focus on how quilting has changed over time. Grannie really would be surprised at quilting's evolution and so will you. What's your favorite new way of doing things?

May 14th – Spring Fling - Baskets, Birds & Blossoms

Everything that spring brings is colorful and / or cute. Bring all your quilts that fit the description and suit the season.



EQ Sit 'n Stitch

Saturday, April 11th
1:00pm - 3:00pm

The new EQ (Electric Quilt) Sit-n-Stitch would like to invite those quilters interested in designing blocks, whole quilts, and hand or machine quilting designs on the computer to join them at their meeting on Saturday, April 11, from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. Learn more about using EQ on your computer, enter your designs in online contests, download monthly fabric samples to use in your designs, and much more! Bring your quilts or designs to share with the group. Please contact Marsha Walper (see Membership Directory) for the location of the meeting.



DOOR PRIZES

March Door Prize Winners

Betty Miller Rosie Patterson
Sharon Pollock Dawn Griffin

Congratulations and thanks for wearing
your name badge!

~ *Miriam Baldwin and Kris Klob*
Door Prize Chairpersons

June Guild Meeting Date Change

The date of the June Meeting has been
changed from the 11th until the 18th, due
to a scheduling conflict at our meeting lo-
cation (Thomasville Road Baptist Church
Fellowship Hall).

LIBRARY NEWS

Donations are welcome at the guild library.
Due to the budget shortfall this year, the guild
library will not be purchasing any new books.
If you have any books you no longer treasure,
please consider donating them for all to use.
If they are duplicates of what we already
have, they will be sold to help purchase other
volumes of interest. Also, if you have made
a quilt using a book we do have in our
library, you can help spread the excitement
by bringing it to a meeting. Our inventory
is available at the QU web site. Just drop
me a line, so I can bring the book to display
with your quilt next to the library table.

~ *Jeanne Brenner*
QU Librarian



QU Prison Project

Sew for Hope has now collected several
sewing machines to be given to women
coming out of prison who want to
continue quilting for Sew for Hope. We
are looking for one or more people
who would like to be a liaison to one
of these women after they come
out of prison. Your job would be to
see if they need equipment or
material and help obtain it for them
and get them involved in sewing
in the wider community. If interested,
please call or email me. I am in
the QU directory.

The prison project is now looking
for bigger pieces of fabric for
quilt backing and other material.
They have enough pre-cut squares
for now so back to regular fabric
donation suitable for adult quilts,
neonatal quilts, school bags and
walker caddies.

~ *Judith Rainbrook*

PILLOWCASES

Members donated over 50 pillow cases
at our February meeting. Special
thanks and recognition to Vicky Prior
and Virginia Ponder. Each of these
ladies made 20 or more cases. We
appreciate the efforts of every member.
Thanks to all.

Guild "Sewing Party"

The "Sewing Party" has been scheduled. We were able to reserve June 13th at the Dorothy Spence Community Center in Chaires. The event will run from 10:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., and will As the plan stands, we'll have several focal zones: (1) New member welcome plus nametag making "class"; (2) Philanthropy work; (3) Open-sew; and maybe some Demos. We'll be firming up the details over the next few weeks. Contacts are: Karen Skinner and Michelle Hackmeyer.

Workshop News

There is excitement in the air in anticipation of the September lecture and workshops by Becky Goldsmith of Piece o' Cake.

Her topic for our September 10th guild meeting is A Practical Approach to Color.

Friday, September 11, stretch your creativity by designing your own quilt or tweaking one of Becky's designs in the Improvisational Quilt making class.

On Saturday, September 12, improve your appliqué skills by making The Best-Ever Quilter's House.

Details on both class are on our QU web site under workshops or at pieceocake.com

The workshops are filling up fast, so if you are interested in attending either give me a call, send a message to workshops@quilttallahassee.com or see me at the March meeting.

~ Jeanne Brenner
Workshop Chair

Looking for Opportunity Quilt Sales Opportunities

Since we will not have the Museum Show during which we can sell tickets for the 2015 Opportunity Quilt, we are looking for other locations and events where we can display the quilt and sell tickets. If you have any ideas, please send them along with contact information, to me, Michele Hackmeyer, or Betty Rinkel.

We will have tickets available for purchase at the April Guild meeting. We encourage all members to buy a packet of 10 tickets to resell or use for yourself. Because our dues do not cover half of the guilds annual expenses, the money we get from this quilt covers part of those routine annual expenses. Please help support your guild and buy some tickets!





Quilter's Unlimited of Tallahassee
P.O. Box 4324
Tallahassee, FL 32315-4324

April 9th QU Meeting

Don't Forget Your

- ☒ Library Books
- ☒ Handmade Name Badge
- ☒ Show 'n Tell

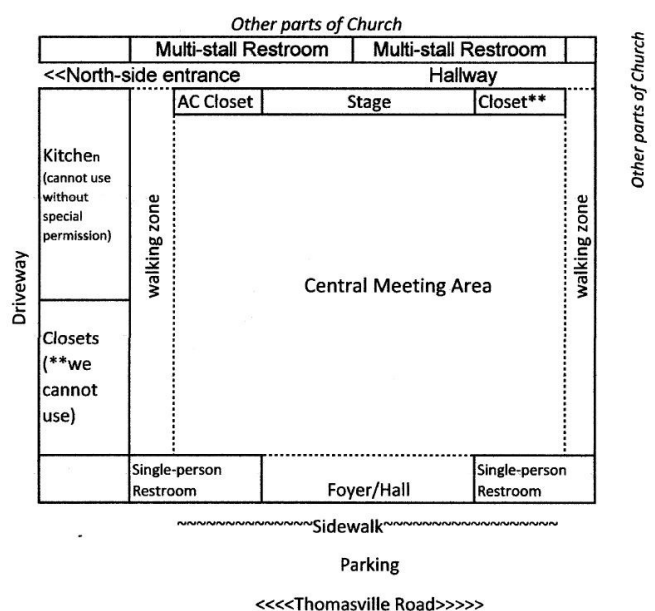


Dates to Remember

- April 9 Guild Meeting, 7:00pm @
Thomasville Road Baptist Church
- April 25 Newsletter Deadline
- May 14 Guild Meeting, 7:00pm @
Thomasville Road Baptist Church
- May 30 Newsletter Deadline

Meetings are held at
 Thomasville Road Baptist Church,
 3131 Thomasville Road
 The social half-hour starts at 6:30 p.m.
 The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

New Meeting Location



April 2016 Newsletter Supplement

From Karen Skinner, QU President

The Steering Committee met after the deadline for the filing of articles and I wanted to update everyone on some of the important decisions made. The formal Minutes, when completed, will be made available on our Website, but not all members have computer/internet access. I will review parts of this at the upcoming meeting, but not everyone gets to attend each meeting.

Thomasville Road Baptist has notified us that they can only let us use their Fellowship Hall for meetings for this year only. We need to search for another Meeting location for 2016 and beyond. The location must be able to seat around 125 people.

1) The entire membership will be asked at the May meeting to vote on increasing the annual dues to \$30; increase to start with the 2016 dues renewals and 2016 new memberships..

This is the amount proposed from the floor of the March meeting, and the Steering Committee agreed with it. The amount is based on trying to cover the core expenses of operating the Guild, e.g., rent, licenses, directory, website hosting and support, fiscal fees. This "core" amount does not include t programs, guest lecturers, door prizes, etc. Unfortunately, since we have to move to a new meeting location in 2016, we have no idea on how that will affect the rent amount needed versus core costs.

2) Expense Reductions

a) The overall 2015 budget expenses for each type of activity were reviewed and the majority reduced to "bare bones". We hope this will save the operating budget about \$2000. But we still expect an end of year decrease in our operating funds of around \$3000 unless we can earn bring in moneys from other activities such as donations for the 2015 Opportunity Quilt. Even with such a shortfall, we will not totally empty our Operating Funds, but 2016 continues to be a problem, especially with the unknown factor of the 2016 rent amount. The Sharon Chambers workshop will be postponed from 2016 until 2017, to adjust when the expenditure for this is needed versus when other moneys are brought in – timing of expense versus income is one of our challenges.

b) An expense reduction under consideration by the Steering Committee has to do with the cost and labor involved with the printing and mailing the Newsletter. The Newsletter costs run about \$15 per member per year for those who get a paper copy. When a decision is reached on the specifics of what changes may be best for the Guild, the Steering Committee feels this matter needs to be *voted on by the entire membership*. Examples: requiring everyone who gets a newsletter to provide for postage, requiring such for only those who can get their Newsletter via e-mail but currently get a paper copy, etc.

3) Additional Fund Raising

a) Have a "Spring" 2016 Opportunity Quilt. This is in addition to the one being made for the 2016 Museum Show, and the 2015 "Leaves" quilt for which tickets will become available for shortly. Mona Snowden of the Frayed Edges Sit'N'Stitch has donated a quilt to the Guild to be used for this purpose.

b) Have Workshop classes taught by experienced Guild members. There would be fees charged for this, although since the expenses involved are not as heavy – no long-distance travel or lodging needed – but there still are expenses – the fees would not be as high. When these will occur is unknown. A location for classes that has good electrical wiring is being sought (contact Karen Skinner re locations). Jeanne Brenner will coordinate the Classes.

c) The Steering Committee decided to postpone a final decision on holding a show of our own at some point. But further research will continue.

d) We may try selling some Silent Auction items on E-Bay. Cheryl Gratt is exploring this.

e) The October Guild Meeting is planned to be an "Open House/Reception", to which we will encourage the public to attend. In addition to displaying some quilts, we can set up a Silent Auction display, and make Opportunity Quilt tickets available for a donation.

4) Other events

b) Plans are underway for us to be able to display the Challenge Quilts at one of the Libraries on the FSU campus in August –September. Pam Doffek is the contact.